

Message Text

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53

ACTION EUR-25

INFO OCT-01 AF-10 NEA-10 ISO-00 SSO-00 NSCE-00 USIE-00

INRE-00 CIAE-00 PM-07 H-03 INR-10 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-07

PA-04 RSC-01 PRS-01 SP-03 SS-20 SY-04 NIC-01 OPR-02

SCA-01 DRC-01 /114 W

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O R 271247Z APR 74

FM AMEMBASSY LISBON

TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 9471

INFO AMEMBASSY CONAKRY

AMEMBASSY DAKAR

AMCONSUL LOURENCO MARQUES IMMEDIATE

AMCONSUL LUANDA IMMEDIATE

AMEMBASSY MADRID IMMEDIATE

AMCONSUL OPORTO

AMCONSUL PONTA DELGADA

AMEMBASSY RABAT

USCINCEUR

DIA WASHDC

COMUSFORAZ

USMISSION NATO

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EO 11652: N/A

TAGS: PINS, PINT, PO

SUBJ: JUNTA TAKES DGS HEADQUARTERS, RELEASES

POLITICAL PRISONERS

1. PRESS REPORTS THAT AT 0930 LOCAL TIME APRIL 26,
LAST FEW DOZEN DGS AGENTS (ONE REPORT SAYS 200)
HOLED UP IN DGS HEADQUARTERS IN DOWNTOWN LISBON
SURRENDERED TO MARINE BESIEGERS. BUILDING
OCCUPIED BY ARMED FORCES, WHO ACCORDING PRESS
FOUND ARCHIVES INTACT. DGS AGENTS THEN INCARCERATED
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POLITICAL PRISON IN LISBON SUBURBS, IN CAXIAS ACCORDING PRESS

REPORTS. (WELL-CONNECTED U.S. RESIDENT TOLD US APRIL 27
THAT 95 AGENTS ARE LOCKED UP AT CAXIAS.)

2. ACCORDING PRESS, CAXIAS PRISON,
GUARDED BY SOME 40 DGS AGENTS,
ALSO SURRENDERED MORNING APRIL 26 TO ARMY
PARATROOPERS AND MARINES, AFTER EVENING RESISTANCE
DURING WHICH THEY THREATENED BUT DID NOT CARRY
THROUGH ON THREAT EXECUTE A NUMBER OF PRISONERS
IN THEIR POWER. SHORTLY AFTER PRISON BLOODLESSLY
LIBERATED, TROOPS MOVED PRISONERS TO CENTRAL
COURTYARD TO AWAIT PRE-RELEASE PROCESSING
BY ADHOC COMMITTEE ARMY LAWYERS AND LAWYERS OF LEFTIST CDE
(DEMOCRATIC ELECTORAL COMMITTEE) AND OF COMMITTEE
FOR LIBERATION OF POLITICAL PRISONERS. RECORDS OF
PRISONERS REVIEWED IN ATTEMPT SEPARATE PURELY
POLITICAL PRISONERS FROM THOSE ALSO HAVING
COMMITTED COMMON CRIMES, BUT APPARENTLY THEY
UNABLE AGREE ON DEFINITION POLITICAL CRIME, AND
ORDER GIVEN FOR RELEASE ALL PRISONERS. BY LATE
EVENING ALL 85 PRISONERS, INCLUDING LUAR (LEAGE OF
UNION AND REVOLUTIONARY ACTION) LEADER HERMINIO DA
PALMA INACIO, AND AT LEAST ONE ARA (ARMED REVOLUTIONARY
ACTION) ACTIVIST RELEASED.

3. EMBOFF PRESENT AT CAXIAS AROUND 1 AM, APRIL 27
REPORTS CARNIVAL ATMOSPHERE, VERY LITTLE CROWD
CONTROL, WITH NO MORE 10-12 MARINES INEFFECTIVELY
TRYING TO MOVE TRAFFIC AND PEOPLE OUT OF AREA.
EMOTIONAL REUNIONS TOOK PLACE BETWEEN RELEASED PRISONERS AND
THOSE AWAITING ON OUTSIDE.

4. PRESS ALSO REPORTS ALL POLITICAL PRISONERS IN
PENICHE PRISON (NEAR CLADAS DA RAINHA ON COAST NORTH
OF LISBON) ALSO FREED BY 0300 MORNING APRIL 27. ONE
ACCOUNT GIVES 43 AS NUMBER RELEASED, ANOTHER SAYS 22.

COMMENT: JUDGING BY THOSE RELEASED SO FAR, JUNTA
NOT DISCRIMINATING IN RELEASE PRISONERS, AND PERSONS
ON FAR LEFT FRINGE AMONG THOSE RELEASED. END COMMENT.
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POST

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Message Attributes

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